

In the Claims:

Claims 1-11 were cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

12. (Cancelled) without prejudice or disclaimer.

13. (Cancelled) without prejudice or disclaimer.

14. (Cancelled) without prejudice or disclaimer.

15. (Cancelled) without prejudice or disclaimer.

16. (Cancelled) without prejudice or disclaimer.

17. (Cancelled) without prejudice or disclaimer.

18. (Cancelled) without prejudice or disclaimer.

19. (Cancelled) without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 20-33 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

34. (Currently Amended) A method of spreading water in an evaporative cooler, comprising:

- a) feeding a water stream to a water spreader arrangement;
- b) dividing said water stream into a pair of partial streams by flowing said water streams over a first substantially vertical projection projecting from a substantially horizontal surface at a first level to divide the stream into partial streams having a predetermined ratio of flow rates as the stream impinges on the first projection; [[and]]

- c) dividing each of the two partial streams into two further streams by flowing each partial stream over an associated one of a pair of further projections at a second level below the first[[]];and
- d) said arrangement providing a water entry point upstream of the first vertical projection, the first level being a substantially horizontal surface, the further projections are substantially horizontal, and the second level is a substantially vertical surface.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 further including the step of dividing the further streams into still further streams by flowing each of the further streams over an associated one of a plurality of still further projections at a level below the second level.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35 where the still further streams have a predetermined ratio of flow rates.

37. (Cancelled) without prejudice or disclaimer.

38. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[37]]34 wherein the arrangement has at least one set of still further projections downstream from the further projections and wherein each still further projection is positioned to divide each further stream into two still further partial streams, each having a predetermined ~~ratio~~ ratio of flow rates therebetween.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 wherein there are a plurality of arrangements and the method is concurrently practiced with each arrangement.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35 wherein there are a plurality of arrangements and the method is concurrently practiced with each arrangement.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36 wherein there are a plurality of arrangements and the method is concurrently practiced with each arrangement.

42. (New) A method for uniformly distributing water in an evaporative cooler comprising:

distributing a water stream to a spreader block through a distribution channel, the water stream flowing from the distribution channel into a generally vertical well to a substantially horizontal surface;

slowing the water stream in the substantially horizontal surface to allow for a dividing of the slowed water stream into two partial streams having a predetermined ratio of flow rates;

the dividing of the slowed water stream into two partial streams having predetermined ratio of flow rates is achieved by flowing the slowed water stream over a first substantially vertical projection extending up from the first substantially horizontal surface;

dividing each of the two partial streams into two further streams by flowing each partial stream over an associated one of a pair of first substantially horizontal projections extending from a first substantially vertical surface at a level below the first substantially horizontal surface, the two further streams having a predetermined ratio of flow rates; and

dividing each of the two further streams into subsequent streams by flowing each of the further streams over an associated second substantially horizontal projections extending from a second substantially vertical surface at a level below the first substantially vertical surface, the subsequent streams having a predetermined ratio of flow rates.

43. (New) The method for uniformly distributing water in an evaporative cooler of claim 42 further comprising receiving the subsequent streams to an associated substantially horizontal end projection positioned at a level below the second substantially vertical surface and about the centerlines of the subsequent streams to provide a uniform distribution of water.

44. (New) The method for uniformly distributing water in an evaporative cooler of claim 42 further comprising scalloping the end surface of the spreader block, the scalloping providing a plurality of scalloped surfaces with a substantially horizontal end block positioned therebetween to provide a uniform distribution of water.

45. (New) The method for uniformly distributing water in an evaporative cooler of claim 42 further comprising each predetermined ratio of flow rates is 1:1.